

St. Edward the Confessor

205 Jackson Avenue, Syosset, New York 11791

Growing in Faith, Love, and Christ



The Epiphany of the Lord

January 2nd, 2022



THE PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Michael T. Maffeo, Pastor
Rev. Hyacinth Jemigbola, Associate Pastor
Rev. Celestine Nwosu, Associate Pastor
Rev. Msgr. Donald McE. Beckmann, Sunday Priest
Deacon James F. Murphy
Deacon Barry P. Croce



Administration

Deacon Thomas Wm. Connolly, Director

St. Edward the Confessor School

Mr. Vincent Albrecht, Principal
Ms. Taylor Moran

Pastoral Center Offices

Mr. Miguel DeLeon, Finance Director
Mr. John O'Connor, Facilities Manager

Office Staff

Mrs. Maryann Waite
Mrs. Luisa Ondocin

Parish Social Ministry

Mrs. Donna Zaino, Coordinator

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Sister Sheila Browne, RSM, Director

Music Ministry

Mr. Jeffrey Fox
Ms. Francesca Lunghi
Mrs. Marilyn Fox
Mrs. Cecilia Hayden

Youth Ministry

Mrs. Michelle Schaake - Vision

Religious Education

Mrs. Rosemary Pettei, Director
Mr. Vincent Albrecht, Director of Confirmation
Mrs. Ann Braun, Secretary

Quick Guide to St. Edward's Parish

Not registered? Please stop by our Rectory during office hours to be included in our parish family!

Telephone Numbers

Rectory.....	921-8030 ext. 150
Rectory Fax.....	921-4549
St. Edward Confessor School.....	921-7767
Religious Education Office.....	921-8543
RCIA.....	921-8030 ext. 135
Administration	921-8030 ext. 136
Facilities Scheduler	921-8030 ext. 136
Bereavement Ministry.....	921-8030 ext. 137
Bulletin Editor.....	921-8030 ext. 137
PSM/Pantry.....	921-8030 ext. 140
Music Ministry.....	921-8030 ext. 150
Youth Ministry.....	921-8030 ext. 127
Pastoral Center Offices.....	921-8030 ext. 132
St. Vincent De Paul Society.....	516-218-7837

Next Week's Presider Schedule

Saturday, January 8 5:00 PM Msgr. Beckmann

Sunday, January 9 7:30 AM Fr. Mike
9:30 AM Fr. Mike
11:30 AM Msgr. Beckmann
6:00 PM Fr. Hyacinth

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays - 12:30 to 1:30 PM in the Church

You may also make an appointment by calling the rectory at: 516-921-8030.

Protect Our Children Hotline

If you or someone you know has experienced an incident of sexual abuse by clergy, an employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, please **contact law enforcement and the diocesan's Office for the Protection of Children and Young People.**

The Diocese maintains a special phone number to report these situations:

Tel.: 516-594-9063

Rectory Hours

The rectory will be open during the following times:

Mondays - Thursdays: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Fridays: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Closed for Lunch M-F: 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM
Saturdays - Sundays: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Outside of these hours, please call: 516-921-8030

Our Weekly Offering

Christmas Day - 12/25/21	\$ 65,037.00
Christmas Flowers -	\$ 2,585.00
Sunday Masses - 12/26/21	\$ 12,296.00
# of Envelopes	167

We thank all who contributed to the support of our Parish!

Fr. Mike

Websites / Social Media

Websites

Parish: www.st-edwards.org

School: www.stedwardconfessor.org

Religious Ed: www.saintedwardre.com

Facebook: [stedwardsyosset](https://www.facebook.com/stedwardsyosset)

Twitter: [stedwardsyosset](https://twitter.com/stedwardsyosset)

Instagram: [stedwardsyosset](https://www.instagram.com/stedwardsyosset)

Formed: formed.org

St. Edward's Mass is Online -

The St. Edward's 7:30 AM and 11:30 AM Sunday Masses are recorded and posted online, both on YouTube and Facebook, and are available for viewing at any time.

YouTube - St. Edward the Confessor Church - Syosset

Facebook Page - St. Edward the Confessor Church

To watch the Sunday Masses on your smartphone, just scan this QR code.



“Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you”.

Mass Intentions

Monday - 01/03 - Monday after Epiphany
9:00 am John R. Bond

Tuesday - 01/04 - Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton
9:00 am Annamarie Morra

Wednesday - 01/05 - Memorial of Saint John Neumann
9:00 am William Stramaitis

Thursday - 01/06 - Thursday after Epiphany
9:00 am Jack O’Sullivan

Friday - 01/07 - Friday after Epiphany
9:00 am Charles Frake

Saturday - 01/08 - Saturday after Epiphany
9:00 am Anthony Tymann
5:00 pm Fr. Paul Kenny
Intention of Myro Halecky
Intention of Hailey Jo Halecky
Ed Cerilli
Peter and Mary Gagliardi

Sunday - 01/09 - The Baptism of the Lord
7:30 am Angeline Connelly
9:30 am Malda M. Casagrande
11:30 am Anna Nemecek
Allen & Patricia Murray
Jean M. Lo Dolce
Santa Bartolotta
Rita Navaretta
Grace Raimo
6:00 pm Parishioners of St. Edwards

Please remember that the church will be open daily for your own private devotions, which may include: An Act of Spiritual Communion, Praying the Divine Office, Praying the Rosary, or writing down your own intentions in the book found at the rear of the church.

The Altar Bread & Wine

For the week of January 2 - 8, 2022
Is Given in Loving Memory of

Judy Sherman

By: Roselle Lauth

The Sanctuary Candle

For the week of January 2 - 8, 2022
Is Lit in Memory of

Judy Sherman

By: Roselle Lauth

Military List

“Lord, hold our troops in your loving hand. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen”

Lt. Cmdr. Jameson Adler, U.S. Navy SEAL
Cpl. Matthew V. Balestrieri, U.S. Marine Corps
Maj. Joel Bernazzani, U.S. Air Force
Pvt. 1/C, Anthony M. Biz, U.S. Marine Corps
Ens. Ryan Dunleavy, U.S. Navy
Lt. Lauren Ehrhard, U.S. Air Force
Sgt. Noah C. Estey, U.S. Marine Corps
SSgt. Michael Gregory, U.S. Army Special Forces
Petty Officer 3rd Class David Griffin, U.S. Navy
Lt. John Hagerman, U.S. Navy
Lt. Amanda Hine, U.S. Navy
Sgt. Christopher Hofer, U.S. Air Force
Maj. Christian Kapey, U.S. Marine Corps
Sr. Airman Michael LiBretto, U.S. Air Force
Pvt. Jonathan Maldonado, U.S. Army
Seaman Liam Pieper, U.S. Navy
2nd t. Richard Martin Prestegaard, U.S. Army
Petty Officer Sean T. Sattler, U.S. Coast Guard
Lt. Brian Shields, U.S. Coast Guard
SSgt. Paul Smith, U.S. Army
Maj. James Tom, U.S. Army
2nd Lt. John P. Trainor, U.S. Marine Corps
1st Lt. Michelle Turcios, U.S. Army
Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Vann, U.S. Navy

“If you know of any military personnel listed above who are no longer in the service, please call the Rectory at: 516-921-8030 to have their name removed. In this way we can accommodate new names”.

Pray For The Sick

Catherine Frake Renata Sorace Kathy Rooney
Ryan DeRiggi Edward Morea James Mc Glone
Nancy Klingler-Petzold

*We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.
Alleluia, alleluia.*



The Epiphany of the Lord

Reading 1 - Isaiah 60:1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth,
and thick clouds cover the peoples;
but upon you the LORD shines,
and over you appears his glory.
Nations shall walk by your light,
and kings by your shining radiance.
Raise your eyes and look about;
they all gather and come to you:
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see,
your heart shall throb and overflow,
for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you,
the wealth of nations shall be brought to you.
Caravans of camels shall fill you,
dromedaries from Midian and Ephah;
all from Sheba shall come
bearing gold and frankincense,
and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm – 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts;
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.
All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
the lives of the poor he shall save.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Reading 2 - Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Brothers and sisters:
You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace

that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

Next Week's Readings

The Baptism of the Lord
January 9, 2022

First Reading - Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Psalms 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

Second Reading - Acts 10:34-38

Gospel - Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

From Fr. Mike's Desk

"...behold magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem. Saying, 'Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.'"

"They were amazed at seeing the star, and entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother...and did him homage."

Today's celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord (also known as Little Christmas), reminds us that even as an infant, Christ was made manifest to the whole world, as signified by this visit from these gentile noblemen. Just imagine how excited they were, as their long journey ended. A journey that began at the sighting of such a wonderful, strange star that moved through the night from the east to west. The magi understood this wonderful occurrence in the universe as a sign of something wonderful happening here on earth. Imagine their confusion when the star they were following disappeared as they approached Jerusalem; the place they believed would be their destination. Think of how taken back they were to not find him in the palace, but in a humble house; a stable as Luke tells us in his Christmas account. Here is where they found not just the newborn King of the Jews, but also the King of Kings. Many would have said, well, we are in the wrong place let us go! However, keep in mind, these were scholars not just of the sky, but also of the religious traditions of all the peoples in the area. They knew the promises given through the Prophets of Israel, they knew that a Messiah was expected, and they knew that God works in His own way. Therefore, instead of turning around, they dropped to their knees, paid Him great homage, and placed before Him gifts fitting for a king. The magi totally understood what God had done, how God would make His Messiah manifest not in a palace, but in a simple modest place, so that all could benefit from His mission on earth. They may not have known that Jesus was God made one of us, but they did know that He was certainly one sent by God to make all things new.

Today also reminds us that we can see God in so many ways in our lives, all we must do is be open and look carefully. We must be like the magi who did not reject what they saw at Bethlehem, but embrace what God has shown each of us in our lives. If you are not sure what He has shown you, then take time to think, and ask

God to show you again, and stop looking for God to act only in grand and miraculous ways. Remember, God also works in little ways and in ways you least expect.

At the end of this month, we will celebrate *Catholic Schools Week*, and it promises to be a great week. We will have *Open House* hours where you can come, tour the school, and see all the good things that *St. Edward's School* has to offer your children, grandchildren, cousins, and neighbors' kids. During this week, you can meet with our principal *Mr. Vincent Albrecht*, or one of our tour guides. A Catholic Education provides your child with all they need to know about this world, and with all they need to know about the world to come. It provides them with all the tools they need to change the world, and to do their part in building up the church and the Kingdom of God. **Please feel free to call the school at: 516-921-7767; you will be happy you did.**

Let us pray: O God, who on this day revealed Your only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in Your mercy that we, who know You already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of Your sublime glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Mike

Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Christmas Flowers Donated In Memory Of

Josephine Avena
 Angelo Avena
 Brasen Family
 Regina Family
 Dr. Thomas Catalano
 Rose & Leonard Caruso
 Joseph Cavanagh
 Kenneth Cavanagh
 Ralph A. Cazzetta, RN
 Nunzio Cazzetta, Jr.
 M/M Anthony Immello
 M/M Ralph Cazzetta
 Josephine R. Cohen
 Victor V. Allegretti
 John V. Cirello, Jr.
 Our Parents, Sr. Madeline
 & Best friend Harry
 Giuseppe Commisso
 Beatrice Pennetti
 Elaine & Ned Di Carlo
 Allegra Buffalino
 Allegra Capra
 Victor Boriello
 Bert Ennis, Gail Ennis,
 Barbara Ann Ennis, Peter Ennis
 Family & Friends
 Olympia & Mario Fasano
 Philomena & John Zambri
 Roland P> Gatti, MD, Aurora Gatti
 Pasquale Gatti
 Caroline Ciappa & Alfred Ciappa
 Caroline Giannino, Robert Gianni
 Mary Ann Giannino and Leonard
 Giannino
 Alice Graczyk, Bernard Graczyk,
 Robert V. Nandy & Eileen Wade
 Frances & Joseph Grillo
 William Grim & Johann Grim
 Marie & Fred Hess
 George C. Karpus, Sylvia Burgos,
 David Burgos & Sal Musco
 Jane E. Klingler
 James Krieg
 Roman & Emilia Kwarta
 Anne, Joseph, Paul & John Labriola
 Meehan & Swanson Family
 Momitt & McDermott Families
 Rita Navaretta
 Paterson & McCarthy Families
 Geraldine Richard & Theresa
 Jorgensen

Angeline & Robert Connelly
 Carmela & Carmine Tiso
 Mary & Como Congemi
 Marie & Robert Haynes, Linda
 Rice, Betty & Jerry Schroeter,
 Sandra Bruns
 Harry & Rose Kaplerchuk
 Dominick Ragno, Sam Ruggiero
 Pam Rosica
 Louise & Joseph Sebastiano,
 Catherine & Alfred Cassara
 Antonio & Giuseppina Sebastiano
 Pasquale & Assunto Rosine
 Salvatore & Melina
 SerravilloSavino & Marie
 StalloneMary & Joe Urso,
 Albert & Rose Uftring
 Fred Varacchi, Mary Drennan,
 Dominick Foresto & James
 Drennan
 Antonina & Giscomo Vernace,
 Mary & Leo Scally
 Gladys & Bill Vogel, Rita & Arnold
 Barnett, Sr. Eleanor Peters, RSM,
 Our Children & Grandchildren
 Rosetta & Richard Wade, John &
 Helen Reid
 Charles L. Weber
 Wesch, Wikstrom & Schmitt
 Families
 Joan & Stanley Wilson, Dorothy &
 Gustaf Magnuson, Sophie
 Wilczynski
 Rita & George Wulforst
 Patricia & Charles Zolek, Walter &
 Anna Stachurski
 Maryjane Zuvicic, Margaret &
 Joe Magasic
 Gaetano Acerra, James &
 Josephine Traina
 Nina P. Anastasio, Emma & Joseph
 Anastasio
 Henry Joseph Anderson, Harry &
 Ellen Anderson & Family, Sarah &
 Carlo DeCicco & Family, DeMeo
 Family
 Antoinette Baran
 Nicholas J. Bartilucci
 Frank Boeggeman, M/M F.
 Boeggeman, Sr., M/M Moran,
 Bescher Family

Peter T. Carnesi, Sonoski & Jurow
 Families
 Lindolfo & Malda Casagrande,
 Victor Casagrande, Paul Tourlis
 Dr. Thomas Catalano, Rose &
 Leonard Caruso, Joseph & Alice
 Caruso, Dorothy Carewe
 Carmela Cefalu, Rose Cefalu,
 Maria Fricano
 Richard Challed, Michael Hanna,
 James Hanna
 Angelo & Josephine Coschignano,
 Annamaria Morra
 Frances & Peter DeCarlo, Lorraine
 & Frank O'Brien
 Belinda & Arthur DeFilippis
 Vincent Del Vecchio, Antonio Del
 Vecchio, Dr. Ben P. Bingham
 Frank Fricano
 Robert E. Geber
 Edward P. Greeley
 Joseph Greeley
 Eleanor Haske
 Denise E. Higgins, Edward R.
 Higgins, Helen R. Finn, Joseph C.
 Finn, Joan F. Higgins and Family
 Joseph & Anna Incantalupo
 Carmine & Marilyn Lofaso
 Barbara & Nelson Lundy, Rafael
 Sequeira
 Giovanni Malandrucolo
 Rocco & Assunta Mastrocola
 Joan M. McIntosh
 Andrew & Rita Monahan, Robert
 Monahan & Patricia Monahan
 Allen E. Murray & Patricia M.
 Murray
 Claire S. Rooney & Gerald P.
 Rooney, Margretta R. King &
 Martin King
 Jibrail & Clementine Sarraf,
 Fabini Mundyirji
 Michael & Antoinette Scicutella,
 Rocco & Joanne Longo
 Lisa Jo Speranza, Daniel Lunde, Sal
 & Rose Anzalone
 Baker & Presogna Families
 Bocksel and Cowley Families
 Catherine & Joachim Borowik,
 Mary Gluzsak & Helen Borowik,

Christmas Flowers Donated In Memory Of

Anna & Maurice walsh & John
Dudek

John T. Colgan, Ann Marcella &

John J. Colgan & Eva & Alex

Scaglione

Dessofoff & Moran Families

Myrika Dougé, Ernest Dessources,

Herbert Dougé & Harry Dougé

Joseph & Gina Hoda, Antonio &

Maria DiCenso, Max, Theresa &

Ray Hagen, Annie & Ralph

Docherty, Kevin & George

McInerney

Helen Hoda

Mary & Carl Ferraro, Ferraro

Family, Philbin Family & Quirk
Family

Dorothy Stannish, Rose, Nicholas

& Alexander Stannish & Joe Hanna

& John Bauer

Edward Kobus

John & James Camposa

The Saint Joseph's Prayer Group



The Holy Father had announced that 2021 was **The Year of Saint Joseph**. St. Joseph was a worker, devoted husband to Mary, a father figure to Jesus, and provides us with a **great example of what a man should strive to be**. Let us follow the example of Saint Joseph, sharing in the love of his Blessed Spouse and Divine Son, by praying the **Rosary** and the **Chaplet of the Divine Mercy**. As the Epiphany of the Lord is upon us, should you feel the call of the Holy Spirit to spend more time in prayer, then gather with **The St. Joseph's Prayer Group on Thursday nights at 7:30 pm in the Church**. Prayer pamphlets for how to pray the Rosary and Divine Chaplet will be made available to everyone. These powerful prayers are gifts from Heaven, and we should believe in their great promises. "Those who sincerely say 'Jesus, I trust in You' will find comfort in all their anxieties and fears".

New York State - Important Update to Mask Mandate

Dear Brothers:

The New York State website FAQ's that accompany **the Governor's directives regarding masks now includes "houses of worship"**.

Therefore, since Churches will **not** be requiring parishioners to present proof of vaccination, we ask that the following announcement be clearly communicated to parishioners through your normal means of communication:

"The Governor of New York State has included houses of worship in her recent directives. Therefore, since the Church does not require parishioners to present proof of vaccination in order to worship God, we ask that all parishioners (two years of age and older) comply with the requirement to wear masks when participating in any activities on parish grounds. This State requirement is currently in effect through January 15, 2022. We will continue to adapt accordingly as new information becomes available. Your patience and Christian charity towards one another during this difficult time is appreciated."

For your information: Priests and any other clergy / assistants may wear masks while processing in / out and while distributing Holy Communion. Please encourage all parishioners, especially volunteers / ushers, to be patient and charitable towards all. It is **not** the responsibility of any individual to police / enforce State regulations. Thank you for your patience and calm leadership.

Oremus pro invicem!

In Christ,
Fr. Eric R. Fasano
Vicar General

Parish Social Ministry



Tel: 516-921-8030

Pantry Hours: 9:30-12:00 noon Monday-Thursday and
2nd Saturday of the month

Next Monthly Food Collection: January 8th & 9th

Food: Coffee, Tea, Lentils, Jelly, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Mustard, Chili, Stew, Pancake Mix, Syrup, White Rice, Granola bars. Juice, Cookies, Chips, Jar Tomato Sauce, Cooking Oil

Personal Grooming: Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Bar Soap, Feminine Hygiene products, Shampoo & Conditioner

Cleaning Supplies: Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, any Cleaning products

Paper Products: Paper Towel, Toilet Paper

If you are not receiving emails from St. Edward Confessor Church Flocknote and would like to please give me a call at the Parish Social Ministry Office. Stay connected!

Knights of Columbus - Call to Action and Service

Worthy Brother Knights,

Having just celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, and upon entering this New Year I am reaching out and asking you to renew your commitment to God and our Church by rededicating your support for our great Joseph J. Gorman Council #5091 and St. Edward the Confessor Church.

As a Council we do so many tasks and deeds which help enhance our St. Edward's religious spirit for you, your children and perhaps your grandchildren and neighbors.

So please, choose to be more active in your Council's activities! We could use your special gifts and ideas in helping us harvest a strong Catholic experience for all.

In Service to one, In Service to all.

Fraternally,

John O'Connor

Grand Knight

Joseph J. Gorman Council #5091



Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God is a feast day of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated by the Catholic Church on January 1st, the Octave (8th) day of Christmastide. Each Sunday, after the 11:30 AM Mass has ended, a group of Parishioners remain in the church to prayer the Rosary. Following the recitation of the Rosary, additional prayers are said, some of which include the following:

Salve Regina (Hail Holy Queen)

Hail, holy Queen,
Mother of Mercy, Our life,
our sweetness and our hope.

To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve,
To thee do we send up our sighs,
Mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.

Turn then, most gracious Advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us,
And after this our exile, show unto us
the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the
promises of Christ.

Amen.

Memorare (Remember)

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known that anyone who
fled to your protection, implored your help
or sought your intercession, was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you,
O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you
I come, before you I stand, sinful and
sorrowful. O Mother of the Word incarnate,
despise not my petitions, but, in your mercy,
hear and answer me.

Amen.



The Magi's Journey Reflects Our Longing For God

Some years ago during the Feast of the Epiphany Pope Francis stated that the Magi had the courage to set out on a journey in the hope of finding something new, unlike Herod who was full of himself and unwilling to change his ways. The Wise Men who set out from the East in search of Jesus personify all those who long for God and reflect “all those who in their lives have let their hearts be anesthetized”. The Pope went on to say that “the Magi experienced longing; they were tired of the usual fare. They were all too familiar with, and weary of, the Herods of their own day. But there, in Bethlehem, was a promise of newness, of gratuity,” he said.

The pope said that the Magi adoring the newborn king highlight two specific actions: seeing and worshipping. Seeing the star of Bethlehem did not prompt them to embark on their journey but rather, “they saw the star because they had already set out,” he said. “Their hearts were open to the horizon and they could see what the heavens were showing them, for they were guided by an inner restlessness. They were open to something new,” the pope said. This restlessness, he continued, awakens a longing for God that exists in the hearts of all believers who know “that the Gospel is not an event of the past but of the present.” It is holy longing for God “that helps us keep alert in the face of every attempt to reduce and impoverish our life. A holy longing for God is the memory of faith, which rebels before all prophets of doom,” the pope said.

Christians are called to imitate the wise men who, “weary of the Herods of their own day,” set out in search of the promise of something new. “The Magi were able to worship, because they had the courage to set out. And as they fell to their knees before the small, poor and vulnerable infant, the unexpected and unknown child of Bethlehem, they discovered the glory of God,” the pope said.

Parish Social Ministry



Tel: 516-921-8030

Pantry Hours: 9:30-12:00 noon Monday-Thursday and
2nd Saturday of the month

Where there is kindness there is goodness; where there is goodness there is God.

The kindness of the parishioners of St. Edward Confessor Church and the Syosset community has changed the lives of so many here in Syosset and beyond. For many of our pantry families, the pandemic has made their difficult life circumstances more of a burden. Between the financial hardship and ongoing health related issues, life leaves them feeling hopeless and abandoned by God. The volunteers in both the Parish Social Ministry and our St. Vincent dePaul Conference help the less fortunate to witness the goodness of God. One woman wrote to us, "You have restored my faith with kindness and understanding."

Let me share with you how we are able to continuously help others in need and the ways we are helping them. At the food pantry, we are currently providing assistance to 68 families and 24 individuals. Throughout the year, with your help and from Island Harvest, we are able to weekly provide nutritious food and basic needs items. We receive a tremendous amount of assistance from members of our Syosset community holding food drives and making monetary donations: Syosset Public Library, Syosset Woodbury Chamber of Commerce, Mid-Island Jewish Center, Sisters of Mercy, parishioners from Holy Name of Jesus, the non-profit group J.E.T.S. of America, Signature Premier Properties, staff, students and parents from all the Syosset Public Schools, Our Lady of Mercy Academy, St. Edward Confessor School, and Boy Scouts Troop 205. There are several neighbors who heard about our pantry and regularly drop off food and basic need items as well as make significant monetary donations. They hear the voices of the poor and want to help. God is good, all the time.

At Christmas, Easter, Back to School and Thanksgiving, each family receives gift cards to make their own purchases as well as grocery cards as needed. For Christmas, the families are given a choice of a frozen lasagna dinner, turkey, ham or chicken. Parents are able to select toys from our toy drive. At Thanksgiving, they receive a choice of a turkey or chicken with all the trimmings and homemade pumpkin bread or fresh made rolls. They can select a coat for each family member from our yearly coat drive. This year, there was a nice selection of brand new coats, gloves and hats for the children. Our back to school drive provides each student with a backpack filled with all the necessary school supplies. This year we gave out a total of 96 backpacks, 81 to our pantry children and 15 to Jericho Cares for the children living in motels. At Easter, we distributed 100 Easter baskets and gave 15 to the children living in the Jericho motels. Just as it is important for us to receive your generous donations, it is also important for us to give, we donate food and other items to St. John of God in Islip on a monthly basis. Where there is goodness there is God.

The kindness of the parishioners continues to change lives by comforting someone who is sick or grieving, by prayer and with handmade prayer shawls. We are so fortunate to have parishioners who returned to volunteer their time to bring communion to the sick in Syosset Hospital, the elderly living in the nearby nursing homes and the homebound. We returned to Cold Spring Hills Nursing Home in June, the surviving residents warmly welcomed and greeted us with Joy to receive Jesus and hear the Word of God. We have an amazing outreach ministry here at St. Edward Confessor Church; every volunteer works tirelessly to give of their time to help our neighbors in need.

Parishioners, because of your kindness, your soul has found a place in the hearts of those whose daily lives are a struggle and it is truly a shelter fortified with gratitude. Thank you!

May God's love surround you at Christmas and always.

With gratitude, Donna



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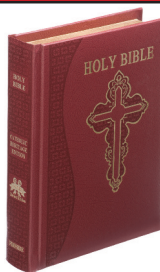
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